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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	010756.104556 (MSFT29)
First Inventor	ANDERSON, Stephen
Title	Systems and Methods for Managing Discussion Threads Based on Ratings
Express Mail Label No.	EV 320210752 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO:

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Mail Stop Patent Application
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)

2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages **25**]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)

- Descriptive title of the invention
- Cross References to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
- Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
- Background of the Invention
- Brief Summary of the Invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
- Detailed Description
- Claim(s)
- Abstract of the Disclosure

4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets **5**]

5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets **4**]

a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)

b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) (for a continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)

i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

6. ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)

8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)

- a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
- b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
- i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
- ii. ☐ paper
- c. ☐ Statement verifying identify of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))

10. ☐ 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement [] Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)

11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)

12. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 [] Copies of IDS Citations

13. ☐ Preliminary Amendment

14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)

15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)

16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i).
Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent

17. ☒ Other: Check #331963 for \$828.00

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

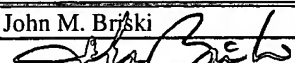
☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: _____ / _____
Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group / Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☒ Customer Number: **6980** OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name	John M. Briski				
	Troutman Sanders LLP				
Address	Bank of America Plaza, Suite 5200				
	600 Peachtree Street N.E.				
City	Atlanta	State	Georgia	Zip Code	30308-2216
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Name (Print/Type)	John M. Briski	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,562
Signature		Date	February 23, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 01/01/03, patent fees are subject to annual revision

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**828.00****Complete if Known**

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	February 23, 2004
First Named Inventor	ANDERSON, Stephen
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Art Unit	Unassigned
Attorney Docket No.	010756.104556 (MSFT29)

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money ☐ Other ☐ None Order☐ Deposit Account:Deposit
Account
Number

20-1507

Deposit
Account
Name

TROUTMAN SANDERS LLP

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments
☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Fee	Entity Fee	Small Fee	Entity Fee	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)		
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	770.00
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)					770.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Extra Claims Fee from Fee Paid below

Total Claims 21 - 20** = 1 X 18 = 18
 Independent Claims 3 - 3** = 0 X 86 = 0
 Multiple Dependent ☐ = ☐

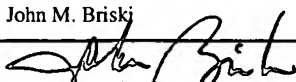
Large	Entity	Small	Entity	
Fee	Fee	Fee	Fee	<u>Fee Description</u>
Code	(\$)	Code	(\$)	
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	40.00
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)					
* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid					
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)					40.00

SUBMITTED BY**Complete (if applicable)**

Name (Print/Type)	John M. Briski	Registration. No. (Attorney/Agent)	44,562	Telephone	404-885-3141
Signature		Date	February 23, 2004		

WARNING: Information of this may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.